



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 499

January Session, 2015

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1055

Senate, April 7, 2015

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. SLOSSBERG of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) The Commissioner of
2 Education shall designate an employee of the Department of
3 Education, preferably an employee who has experience working with
4 gifted and talented students, to be responsible for providing
5 information and assistance to local and regional boards of education
6 and the parents or guardians of students relating to awareness about
7 and identification of, and the provision of services to, gifted and
8 talented children.

9 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Education shall
10 study the provision of services to gifted and talented students in
11 schools. Such study shall examine the best practices for (1) addressing
12 the intellectual, social and emotional needs of gifted and talented
13 students in schools, and (2) using technology to extend and advance
14 curriculum materials to provide instruction to gifted and talented
15 students without promoting such students to higher grade levels. Not

16 later than January 1, 2016, the department shall submit a report on its
17 findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
18 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education,
19 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
20 statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires (1) the Commissioner of Education to designate an employee to be responsible for providing information to local and regional boards of education and the parents or guardians of students, relating to awareness, identification, and the provision of services to gifted and talented students; and (2) the State Department of Education (SDE) to conduct a study on the provision of services to gifted and talented students in schools. Neither requirement results in a cost to SDE, as they currently have the staff and resources available to complete the requirements.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1055*****AN ACT CONCERNING GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the education commissioner to designate an employee to provide assistance to local and regional boards of education and students' parents or guardians about awareness of, and services to, gifted and talented students. It also requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to (1) study services for gifted and talented students and best practices to address their needs and (2) submit any findings and recommendations to the Education Committee by January 1, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015, except the study requirement is effective upon passage.

GIFTED AND TALENTED POINT PERSON

Under the bill, the commissioner must designate a SDE employee to be responsible for providing information and assistance to boards of education and students' parents or guardians relating to awareness and identification of, and providing services to, gifted and talented children. The bill specifies that it is preferable for this employee to have experience working with gifted and talented students.

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT STUDY

The bill requires SDE to study services provided to gifted and talented students in public schools. The study must examine best practices for:

1. addressing these students' intellectual, social, and emotional needs and

2. using technology to extend and advance curriculum materials in order to provide instruction to gifted and talented students without promoting them to higher grade levels.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 32 Nay 0 (03/18/2015)